

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1 to 10 are pending in the application. Claims 11-18 have been withdrawn in view of the restriction requirement.

I. Election of Claims

In the Office Action, the Examiner required an election between the inventions as follows:

- I. Claims 1-10 drawn to a planetary gear system and
- II. Claims 11-18 drawn to a method of forming a planetary gear system.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 1-10 in the current application. The Applicants hereby reserve the right to prosecute the non elected group, Group II (claims 11-18), in a divisional application.

II. Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. Villhard, Reg. 53,725
Thompson Coburn LLP
One US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
Telephone: (314) 552-6293
Fax: 314-552-7293